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Docket No.: 52352-372

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of :
Jeffrey A. SHIELDS, et al. :
Serial No.: 09/498,336 : Group Art Unit: 1765
Filed: February 04, 2000 : Examiner: V. Perez Ramos
For: CF4 + H2O PLASMA ASHING FOR REDUCTION OF CONTACT/VIA
RESISTANCE

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JUN 27 2001
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2800

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

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JUL 02 2001

Sir:

TC 1700

Entry of this Preliminary Amendment, prior to initial examination is solicited.

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace the first paragraph beginning at page 1 under heading "RELATED APPLICATION" as follows:

Sub D → --This application contains subject matter similar to subject matter disclosed in copending U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/498,335 filed on February 4, 2000.--
A1

REMARKS

Claims 1 through 20 are pending in this application. By the present amendment, the current status of copending applications mentioned in the specification has been updated. Care